Application No. 09/966686
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Amendment Attorney Docket No. S63.2N-7405-US02

- 5(. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the dies are wedge-shaped.
- 51. (New) \ The method of claim 46 wherein at least 8 dies are provided.
- 52. (New) \ The method of claim 46 wherein at least 16 dies are provided.
- 53. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the dies are moved cooperatively inward during the moving step.
- 54. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the entirety of the stent is disposed in the aperture during the placing step.
- 5!. (New) A method of crimping a stent comprising the steps of:
- a) providing a crimper having a plurality of closely spaced overlapping movable dies defining an aperture, the aperture sized to receive a stent therein;
 - b) placing a stent disposed about a catheter within the aperture;
- c) reducing the size of the aperture by moving the movable dies, the dies contacting the stent at d crimping the stent onto the catheter.
- 56. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein the stent is disposed about a medical balloon, the medical balloon disposed about a catheter.
- 5". (New) The method of claim 55 wherein the stent is cooled below ambient temperature prior to reducing the size of the aperture.
- 5%. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein the stent is made of nitinol.
- 5!). (New) The method of claim \$5 wherein the dies are wedge-shaped.
- 61). (New) The method of claim 55 wherein at least 8 dies are provided, the dies being wedge-shaped.
- 6: (New) The method of claim 55 wherein at least 16 wedge-shaped dies are provided.
- 62. (New) The method of claim 55 wherein the entirety of the stent is disposed in the aperture during the placing step.
- 63. (New) A method of reducing a stent in cross-section comprising the steps of
- a) providing a crimper having a plurality of closely spaced movable dies defining an aperture, the dies arranged to form an iris;
- b) placing a stent disposed about a catheter within the aperture, the stent having a first substantially uniform cross-section along its length;

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